

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reexamination of the captioned application is respectfully requested.

A. SUMMARY OF THIS AMENDMENT

By the current amendment, Applicants basically:

1. Thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 4 – 6, 25 – 34, 37 – 39, and 75 – 78.
2. Amend independent claims 2, 8¹, and 36 to include therein limitations of dependent claims indicated as being allowable.
3. Rewrite claims 25, 28, 30, 31, 33, and 34 as independent claims².
4. Amend the dependencies of claims 5, 6, 26, 27, 29, 39, thereby, e.g., mooted claim objections.
5. Editorially amend independent claim 74.
6. Cancel claims 4, 10, 24, and 37 without prejudice or disclaimer.
7. Respectfully traverse the prior art rejection of independent claim 74.

B. PATENTABILITY OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 2, 3, 8 – 10, 24, 36, and 74 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent 7,056,096 to Takagi et al. All prior art rejections are respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Independent claim 74 requires, e.g., a drive circuit the drive circuit which comprises a source of digital pulses; a transformer; and a power switching element. None of these drive circuit elements are taught or suggested by US Patent 7,056,096 to Takagi et al. Accordingly, Takagi does not anticipate and should be withdrawn as a reference.

¹ Although no claim dependent on claim 8 was indicated as being allowable, Applicants have amended independent claim 8 to include therein the allowable pulse width modulation circuit feature of other claims.

² The amended claims differ slightly from their predecessors by having some limitations now couched in more structural “configured to” terminology.

C. MISCELLANEOUS

In view of the foregoing and other considerations, all claims are deemed in condition for allowance. A formal indication of allowability is earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's deposit account #14-1140 in whatever amount is necessary for entry of these papers and the continued pendency of the captioned application.

Should the Examiner feel that an interview with the undersigned would facilitate allowance of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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